

APPLICATION FOR
UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, Darren Williams, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of the State of Wyoming, having a postal address of 802 A Powderhorn Lane, Jackson, WY, 83002, have invented a new and useful "**Landing Net Transport Device**", of which the following forms the specification.

"Landing Net Transport Device"

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present invention was the subject matter of Document Disclosure Program
Registration Number 523,181, filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office
5 on December 18, 2002.

**STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH
OR DEVELOPMENT**

Not applicable.

REFERENCE TO MICROFICHE APPENDIX

10 Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of landing net transport devices in
general; and, in particular to such a device incorporating a unique arrangement for
15 attaching the device to the angler's clothing.

Description of Related Art

As can be seen by reference to the following U.S. Patent Nos. 5,651,141; 6,036,067; 4,980,988; and, 4,723,695, the prior art is replete with myriad and diverse landing net carrying arrangements.

5 While all of the aforementioned prior art constructions are more than adequate for the basic purpose and function for which they have been specifically designed, they are uniformly deficient with respect to their failure to provide a simple, efficient, and practical backpack style net transport device that utilizes conventional clothing features as anchor points to secure the net transport device to the user's person while fishing.

10 Unfortunately, the current prior art constructions require specialized vests, or modifications to existing fishing-wear accessories including the landing net itself to produce the desired result which is both expensive for the angler and entirely unnecessary.

As a consequence of the foregoing situation, there has existed a longstanding
15 need among anglers for a new and improved landing net transport device that attaches to conventional apparel features such as the angler's collar, belt, and shirt pockets to form a multi-point anchoring system for the landing net transport device; and, the provision of such a construction is the stated objective of the present invention.

20 BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly stated, the landing net transport device that forms the basis of the present invention comprises in general a receptacle unit and a securing unit to suspend the net transport device in a backpack fashion relative to the user's person.

As will be explained in greater detail further on in the specification, the
25 receptacle unit comprises in general a receptacle member having a waterproof rear panel and a front panel including a substantial netting fabric component that promotes air circulation around the landing net, as well as, allowing residual water from the landing net to be drained away. Furthermore, waterproof material that forms the rear panel is incorporated into the front panel to provide structural strength to the finished
30 construction, as well as, to form an attachment surface for the securing unit.

The securing unit comprises a plurality of clip members attached by different length strap elements to the receptacle member, wherein the shorter length strap members are provided to allow the receptacle member to be secured between the

angler's collar and belt; and, wherein the longer strap members are provided to form an attachment between the top of the receptacle member and the pockets of a user's shirt.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

5 These and other attributes of the invention will become more clear upon a thorough study of the following description of the best mode for carrying out the invention, particularly when reviewed in conjunction with the drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the landing net transport device in use;

10 FIG. 2 is an exploded perspective view of the transport device and a conventional landing net; and,

FIG. 3 is a side elevation view of the transport device in use with enlarged details of the receptacle member construction and the clip member.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

15 As can be seen by reference to the drawings, and in particularly to FIG. 1, the landing net transport device that forms the basis of the present invention is designated generally by the reference number **10**. The transport device **10** comprises in general a receptacle unit **11** and a securing unit **12**. These units will now be described in seriatim fashion.

20 As can be seen by reference to Figs. 1 through 3, the receptacle unit **11** comprises a receptacle member **20** having a rear panel **21** fabricated from a sheet of waterproof material **22** and having a front panel **23** formed from a combination of generally stiff plaster netting material **24** and waterproof material **22** that forms a generally inverted I-shaped extension element **25** of the rear panel **21**. This extension element **25** is further operatively connected to the rear panel **21** via a collar **26** that
25 defines the opening **27** of the receptacle member **20** that is dimensioned to receive a conventional landing net **50**.

30 Turning now in particular to Figs. 2 and 3, it can be seen that the securing unit **12** comprises a plurality of clip members **30** wherein, each clip member **30** is attached by a strap element **31** to a selected portion of the rear panel **21** of the receptacle member **20** as will be explained presently.

Still referring to Figs. 2 and 3, it can be seen that the central upper and lower portions of the rear panel **21** are provided with relatively short strap elements **31' 31'** so that the clip members **30** suspend the receptacle member **30** between the collar **101** and belt **102** of a user's apparel.

5 In addition, the opposite sides of the upper portion of the rear panel **21** are provided with a pair of elongated strap elements **31" 31"** wherein, the clip members **30** are adapted to engage the angler's shirt pockets **103** so that the receptacle member **20** is anchored at four points on the angler's clothing. Furthermore, as can best be seen by reference to Fig. 3, the clip member **30** has a stationary jaw element **32** and a
10 lever actuated jaw element **33** that cooperate with one another in a well recognized fashion to establish a firm grip on the angler's apparel.

 Although only an exemplary embodiment of the invention has been described in detail above, those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that many modifications are possible without materially departing from the novel teachings and advantages of this
15 invention. Accordingly, all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of this invention as defined in the following claims.

 Having thereby described the subject matter of the present invention, it should be apparent that many substitutions, modifications, and variations of the invention are possible in light of the above teachings. It is therefore to be understood that the
20 invention as taught and described herein is only to be limited to the extent of the breadth and scope of the appended claims.